

CATALOGUE NO. 1307.1

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## ECONOMIC INDICATORS, NEW SOUTH WALES SEPTEMBER 1995

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### MAIN FEATURES

#### *Employment*

The seasonally adjusted number of employed persons in NSW in August 1995 was 2,765,900, a slight rise of 0.4% from the previous month and an increase of 4.4% since August 1994. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted number of employed persons in August 1995 of 8,273,900 was relatively steady compared to the previous month but was 4.2% higher than August 1994.

#### *Unemployment*

The seasonally adjusted estimate of unemployed persons in NSW in August 1995 was 235,000, a rise of 6.6% from the previous month but a fall of 11.2% since August 1994. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in NSW for August 1995 was 7.8% compared to the national rate of 8.3%.

#### *Building Approvals*

The seasonally adjusted number of new dwelling units approved in NSW in July 1995 was 4,296 representing an increase of 20.5% on the previous month.

#### *New Motor Vehicle Registrations*

The seasonally adjusted figure for New Motor Vehicle registrations in NSW increased by 4.9% from 18,434 in June 1995 to 19,339 in July 1995.

#### *Finance*

The value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in NSW in July 1995 fell by 11.8% from the previous month and was 6.7% lower than in July 1994. The value of personal finance commitments in NSW in July 1995 decreased by 13.8% from June 1995.

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### NOTES

This publication provides information on a wide range of economic indicators which are the latest available at the time of publication. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues.

For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific ABS publications.

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Gregory W. Bray  
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

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**INQUIRIES:**

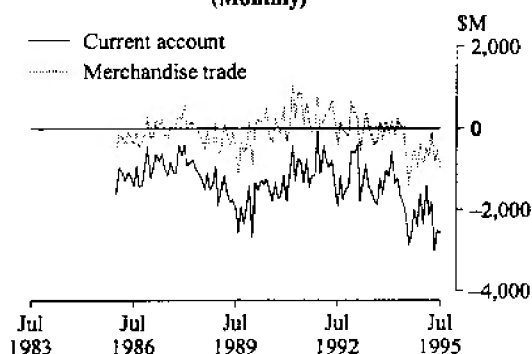
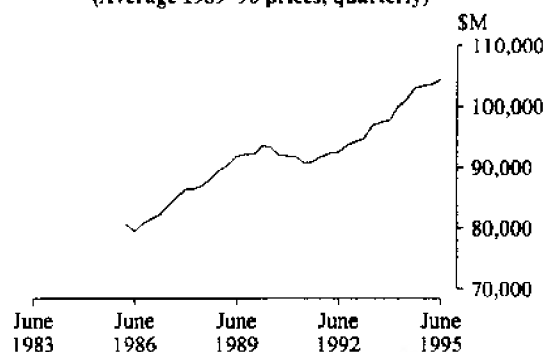
- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact John Petersen on Sydney (02) 268 4586 or any ABS office.
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## NATIONAL ECONOMY

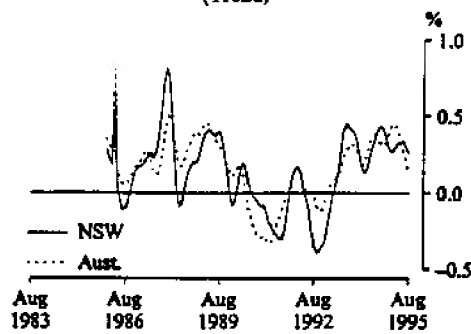
Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Change over prior period	Change over year
<b>National Accounts percentage change, average 1989-90 prices, (seasonally adjusted)—</b>				
Gross non-farm product	%	June qtr 95	0.8	4.3
Gross domestic product	%	June qtr 95	0.7	3.4

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding periods			Figure one year ago
				One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago	
<b>Balance of payments—</b>							
Merchandise exports	\$m	July 95	6,244	5,685	6,151	5,612	5,378
Merchandise imports	\$m	Aug. 95	-6,955	-7,195	-6,228	-6,979	-6,672
Balance on merchandise trade	\$m	July 95	-951	-543	-828	-84	-607
Balance on goods and services	\$m	July 95	-1,088	-796	-1,039	-163	-731
* Balance on current account	\$m	July 95	-2,575	-2,508	-3,016	-1,820	-2,107
Balance on current account (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	July 95	-2,091	-2,522	-3,130	-2,440	-2,004
<b>Terms of trade for goods and services—</b>							
Index (seasonally adjusted) 1989-90 = 100		June qtr 95	93.6	92.4	91.5	89.2	88.4
<b>Exchange Rates at end of period—</b>							
\$US/\$A		July 95	0.7389	0.7086	0.7138	0.7299	0.7393
Trade weighted index of value \$A May 1970 = 100		July 95	51.0	48.4	48.5	49.6	53.9
<b>Interest Rates—</b>							
Prime rate (Source: Reserve Bank)	per cent	Aug 95	10.65-10.75	10.65-10.75	10.60-10.75	10.60-10.75	8.95-9.00

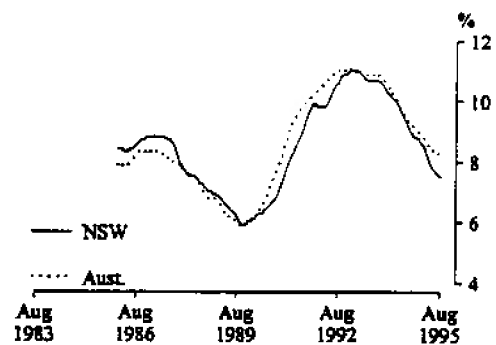
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS  
AUSTRALIA  
(Monthly)GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, AUSTRALIA  
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
(Average 1989-90 prices, quarterly)NEW SOUTH WALES IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA  
(%)

Indicator	Latest period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	Aust.
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	Aug. 95	7.8	8.6	9.1	9.5	6.9	10.2	8.3
<b>Percentage change from previous year—</b>								
Employed persons	Aug. 95	4.4	4.6	4.6	2.4	4.1	2.4	4.2
Consumer price index: all groups	June qtr 95	4.9	3.7	4.8	3.8	5.3	4.2	4.5
Average weekly employee earnings: full-time adult ordinary time (trend estimates)	May 95	5.9	5.1	4.0	3.0	5.0	2.3	4.9
Retail turnover (trend estimates)	July 95	6.4	8.9	9.1	13.9	5.3	3.5	8.0
New motor vehicle registrations	July 95	8.1	-10.5	13.7	-11.8	-4.2	-10.7	1.9
Dwelling units approved	July 95	-4.6	-25.2	-41.2	-40.6	-43.5	-31.5	-27.1
Value of non-residential building approved	July 95	81.1	63.0	6.6	8.9	0.2	33.3	30.2
Value of all buildings approved	July 95	23.4	-3.7	-27.9	-21.6	-27.0	-6.1	-6.6
Value of engineering construction work done	Mar. qtr 95	-0.2	-1.5	10.8	-13.9	-15.5	-9.0	-1.4
Room occupancy rate in licensed hotels and motels etc.	Mar. qtr 95	4.1	9.8	0.0	6.4	3.9	2.9	3.9
Actual private new capital expenditure	Mar. qtr 95	28.2	19.3	17.4	28.8	33.5	143.8	24.1

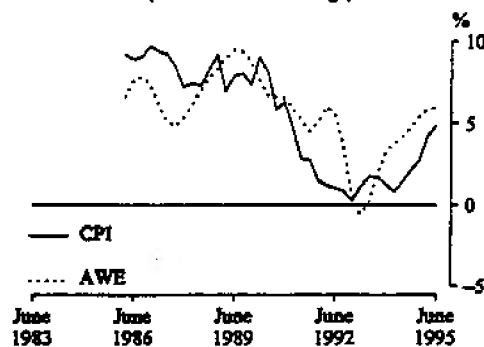
**MONTHLY CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED (Trend)**



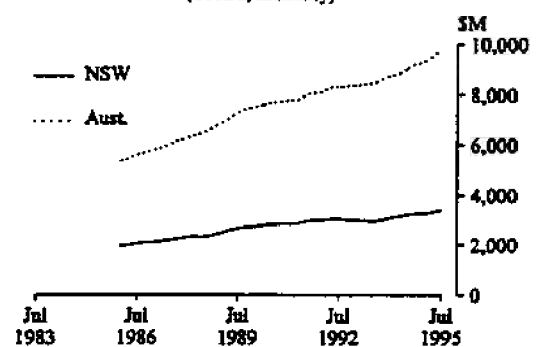
**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (Trend)**



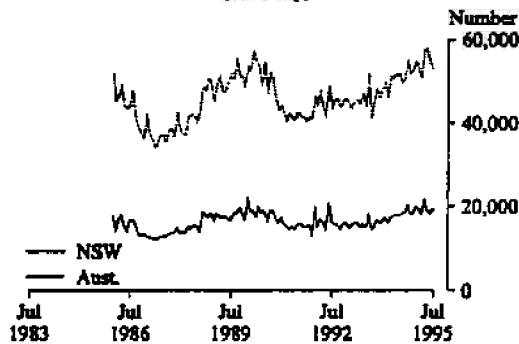
**PRICES AND EARNINGS, NSW (Annual rate of change)**



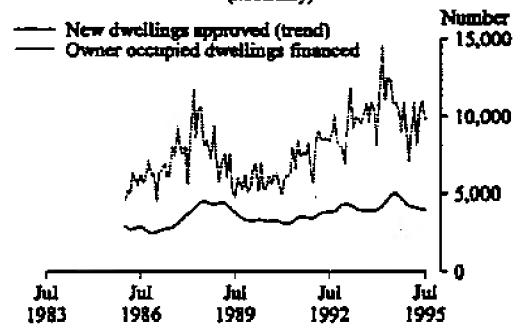
**RETAIL TURNOVER (Trend, monthly)**



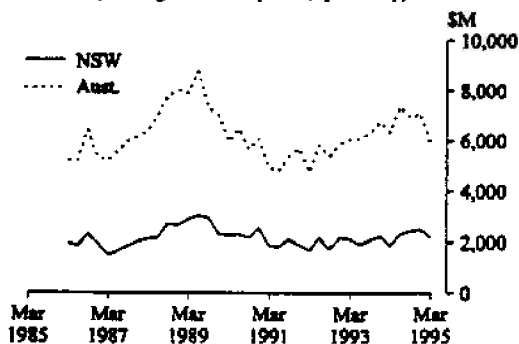
**NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED (Monthly)**



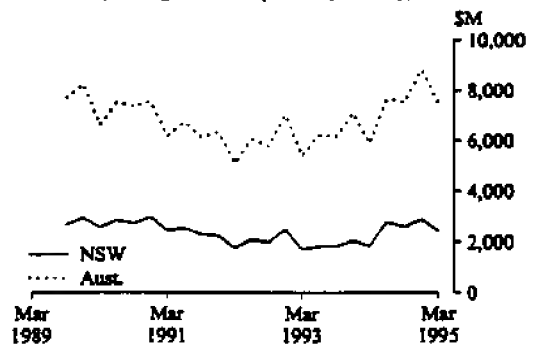
**NEW DWELLINGS APPROVED AND HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS, NSW (Monthly)**



**VALUE OF ALL BUILDINGS COMMENCED (Average 1989-90 prices, quarterly)**



**PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (Average 1989-90 prices, quarterly)**



## NEW SOUTH WALES IN RELATION TO AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales		Latest figure	Australia	
				Change from prior period (%)	Change from same period prior year (%)		Change from prior period (%)	Change from same period prior year (%)
<b>Population</b>								
Estimated resident population	'000	Dec. qtr 94	6,081	0.20	0.96	17,939	0.23	1.09
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000	Aug. 95	4,806	0.09	1.16	14,156	0.11	1.41
<b>Labour Force</b>								
Employed persons—full-time (original series)	'000	Aug. 95	2,112	-1.5	4.4	6,183	-1.4	3.7
—total (original series)	'000	Aug. 95	2,751	-0.7	4.4	8,218	-0.9	4.2
—total (seasonally adjusted)	'000	Aug. 95	2,766	0.4	4.4	8,274	—	4.2
Unemployed persons—(original series)	'000	Aug. 95	227	7.3	-11.2	722	1.7	-9.5
—(seasonally adjusted)	'000	Aug. 95	235	6.6	-11.2	753	1.5	-9.4
Labour force (seasonally adjusted)	'000	Aug. 95	3,001	0.8	3.0	9,027	0.1	2.9
Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	Aug. 95	62.4	0.7	1.8	63.8	—	1.5
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	Aug. 95	7.8	5.7	-13.8	8.3	1.3	-12.0
Job vacancies	'000	May 95	24	-0.7	35.0	54	-6.1	8.8
Weekly paid overtime per employee (a)	hours	May 95	7.1	-1.9	-4.9	7.2	-2.2	-2.2
<b>Average Weekly Employee Earnings</b>								
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings (trend estimates)	\$	May 95	671.60	1.4	5.9	646.10	1.3	4.9
All employees total earnings (trend estimates)	\$	May 95	573.90	0.8	4.3	548.50	0.6	3.0
Industrial Disputes—Working days lost	'000	June 95	6.6	-34.0	43.5	39.0	-56.0	37.3
Consumer Price Index, All Groups 1989-90=100		June qtr 95	115.4	1.5	4.9	116.2	1.3	4.5
Retail Turnover (trend estimates)	\$m	July 95	3,413	0.8	6.4	9,768	0.7	8.0
New Motor Vehicle Registrations (seasonally adjusted)	No.	July 95	19,339	4.9	7.4	52,938	-2.6	2.6
Passenger vehicles (seasonally adjusted)	No.	July 95	16,338	6.6	8.2	43,932	-1.0	4.2
Other motor vehicles (excl. motor cycles) (seas. adj.)	No.	July 95	3,001	-3.5	3.7	9,005	-10.0	-4.5
<b>Production</b>								
Clay bricks (seasonally adjusted) (b)	million	July 95	60	-7.0	-2.5	141	-5.3	-10.3
Electricity (seasonally adjusted)	mill. kWh	July 95	5,333	7.8	7.2	14,232	2.8	5.6
Gas (seasonally adjusted) (b)	terajoules	July 95	9,535	3.8	5.9	54,939	6.1	7.0
<b>Overseas Trade</b>								
Imports	\$m	Aug. 95	3,076	-0.7	-1.4	6,845	-0.3	2.8
Exports, Australian produce	\$m	July 95	1,396	7.4	5.7	5,967	9.9	15.9
<b>Tourism</b>								
Overseas visitor short-term arrivals	'000	July 95	149	38.3	17.8	330	26.1	16.7
Resident overseas short-term departures	'000	July 95	94	1.3	13.1	234	1.9	6.7
Licensed hotels, motels etc. with facilities—								
Guest nights	'000	Mar. qtr 95	5,321	-1.6	2.8	15,469	-2.4	3.4
Room occupancy rate	%	Mar. qtr 95	58.8	0.0	4.1	58.1	-1.5	3.9
<b>Building</b>								
Approvals—								
Dwelling units (seasonally adjusted)	No.	July 95	4,296	20.5	-3.3	11,237	-1.9	-27.0
Value of new residential building (seasonally adj.)	\$m	July 95	429	24.8	1.5	997	-6.5	-24.8
Value of non-residential building	\$m	July 95	373	22.8	81.1	773	-26.4	30.2
Value of all building	\$m	July 95	881	19.0	23.4	2,009	-13.8	-6.6
Commencements—								
New dwelling units	No.	Mar. qtr 95	11,346	-14.4	11.6	35,271	-22.9	-13.6
Value of new residential buildings (c)	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	1,217	-13.4	25.1	3,299	-19.4	-4.1
Value of non-residential building (c)	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	777	1.1	13.5	2,195	-6.5	-9.2
Value of all building (c)	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	2,191	-12.6	17.6	5,956	-16.3	-6.2
Value of work done in period (c)	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	2,049	-16.9	6.8	6,094	-17.6	5.1
<b>Engineering Construction</b>								
Private contractors—								
Value of work commenced	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	473	-58.2	-36.1	1,697	-20.6	-6.5
Value of work done	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	534	-16.8	-15.9	1,591	-10.9	-11.9
Value of work yet to be done	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	1,440	-6.2	29.7	3,529	3.6	24.5
Value of work done by public sector	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	552	-6.1	21.8	1,428	-6.1	13.6
<b>Finance</b>								
Housing finance for owner occupation—secured								
commitments to individuals by significant lenders	\$m	July 95	1,394	-11.8	-6.7	3,813	-5.6	-9.8
Personal finance commitments—significant lenders	\$m	July 95	918	-13.8	16.4	2,799	-9.5	21.1
Commercial finance commitments—significant lenders	\$m	June 95	4,954	14.7	-24.1	12,023	25.3	1.2
Savings balances at end of month—								
All banks (d) (Source: Reserve Bank)	\$m	July 95	116,672	2.6	(e)	260,865	2.0	8.3
Building societies	\$m	July 95	3,444	0.4	11.4	10,798	-11.7	-2.1
Credit unions	\$m	July 95	5,502	1.5	15.0	12,477	1.5	12.8
<b>Actual New Fixed Capital Expenditure (f)</b>								
New buildings and structures	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	2,537	-17.5	28.2	7,874	-15.6	24.1
Equipment, plant and machinery	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	579	-3.5	39.5	2,227	-2.7	19.6
	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	1,958	-21.0	25.2	5,647	-19.8	26.0

(a) Average weekly overtime hours for those employees who were paid for overtime. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.  
(c) Average of 1989-90 prices. (d) Average of weekly deposit balances. (e) Unavailable owing to revisions being done nationally only. (f) By private enterprises.



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